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CROPS AND MARKETS

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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VENEZUELAN CIGARETTE OUTPUT CONTINUES UPWARD

Output of cigarettes in Venezuela continued its upward trend through 1955. Cigarette output totaled 3.3 billion pieces and was 10 percent greater than the 1954 level of 3.0 billion. Output of cigars, though relatively small in the total aggregate, continued to decline and amounted to only 66 million pieces in 1955.

Demand for cigarettes, both locally produced and imported, is expected to rise. The increase in imports of both leaf tobacco and cigarettes, principally from the United States, has been concurrent with the rise in consumption. Imports of United States leaf are used for blending with local leaf in the production of the American type cigarette. Also, small quantities of oriental tobaccos are imported from Greece and Turkey.

GUATEMALAN CIGARETTE OUTPUT UP 8 PERCENT

Cigarette output in Guatemala during the first half of 1956 totaled 826 million pieces -- up 8 percent from the 768 million produced during the comparable period of last year.

Production of cigars in 1955, totaling 54.3 million pieces, reversed its downward trend and was 11 percent larger than the 1954 level of 49.0 million pieces. However, during the first 4-months of 1956 cigar production was 25 percent below the January-April 1955 level of 17.4 million pieces. Currently, a company has filed an application for a license to install a modern cigar factory at Zacapa. The application reportedly has caused adverse feelings among employees of factories where cigars are hand-made. However, the Ministry of Economy and Labor issued a statement indicating that the proposed factory would manufacture only high quality cigars and would not affect the status of employees manufacturing cigars by hand.

BRAZIL INCREASES TOBACCO EXPORT TAX

A recent Brazilian state law increased the present tax on tobacco exported from Bahia from .20 to .40 cruzeiros per kilogram (about 1 U. S. cent per pound), according to a recent report. This tax is used for maintaining the services of the Tobacco Institute of Bahia and also for financing and supplying seeds and fertilizers to tobacco growers.

RENEWED GREEK-JAPANESE TRADE
AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

The trade and payment agreements between Greece and Japan, which expired March 31, 1956, were reportedly renewed to March 31, 1957 by an exchange of notes between representatives of the 2 countries. The new trade arrangement contemplates a minimum volume of trade in each direction of \$2.5 million. The new agreement includes Greek leaf tobacco (\$500,000) as one of the items to be exported in exchange for Japanese goods. The total valuation of Greek leaf tobacco shipped to Japan from April 1, 1955 through March 31, 1956 amounted to \$231,039.

NEW PAKISTAN-WEST GERMANY
TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

According to information contained in Die Tabak-Zeitung (Tobacco Gazette-Mainz) of September 21, 1956, a new trade agreement has been signed between Pakistan and the Federal Republic of Germany. The agreement is valid from July 1, 1956 through June 30, 1957. The new agreement lists Pakistani tobacco as one of the items available for export in exchange for German goods. In the past, there have been no reported shipments of Pakistani tobacco to West Germany.

RHODESIAN TOBACCO DELEGATION
SENT TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

According to information contained in the Tobacco Bulletin (supplement to Tobacco Intelligence - London) of October 1956, a delegation from the Rhodesian Tobacco Marketing Board has gone to Australia and New Zealand to explore the possibilities of expanding market outlets for Rhodesian tobacco. In recent years the Federation has supplied about 25 percent of Australian imports, but New Zealand continued to purchase its import requirements almost exclusively from the United States.

RENEWED AUSTRIAN-HUNGARY
TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

The Austrian-Hungarian Trade Agreement of June 3, 1946 was reportedly extended for another year following the conclusion of negotiations held in Budapest on September 14, 1956. The new agreement is valid from September 1, 1956 through August 31, 1957 and includes 441,000 pounds of Hungarian tobacco as one of the items to be exported in exchange for Austrian goods. Austria's imports of Hungarian leaf tobacco in 1955 totaled 176,000 pounds, but none were received in 1952-54.

WORLD JUTE PRODUCTION CONTINUES TO INCREASE

World jute production for 1956 is estimated at 4,651 million pounds, compared with 4,477 million in 1955, and 3,422 million in 1935-39. Increases are noted in all major producing areas.

Pakistan and India together produced 97 percent of the total world supply in 1956. Pakistan accounted for 2,880 million pounds, or an increase of 160 million over the preceding year, and of 1,200 million over 1953 production. India accounted for 1,640 million pounds or a relatively small increase of 4 million pounds over the preceding year, and 440 million over the 1953 crop. The two countries together have increased their jute production by 1,159 million pounds, or 34 percent over the 1935-39 average.

The present balance between supply and demand is good. World demand has increased somewhat through the years, but the pattern of supply of manufactured goods is changing. European countries and Pakistan are manufacturing and exporting jute goods in increasing quantities, and Indian exports have failed to increase in the same proportion. Indian mills released some of the sealed looms during 1955, but when output began to exceed sales, the looms were resealed early in 1956. Twelve and a half percent of the looms of the Indian Jute Mills Association are now sealed from production, the same as formerly.

Acreage planted to jute in Pakistan is controlled to prevent either scarcity or surplus of fiber, but floods in some past years cut the harvested acreage and quality of fiber. Carryover supplies of raw jute in the growing areas have been relatively low for 2 years. Most of the Pakistani crop is exported as fiber, but the Indian crop along with large imports from Pakistan is consumed in Indian mills for export throughout the world.

Exports of raw jute from Pakistan in 1955-56 reached nearly 2,400 million pounds of which about 660 million were sent to India. The other 1,740 million pounds were divided as follows: 182 million to other Asiatic countries; 1,289 million pounds, or 54 percent, to European countries; 157 million to the United States; and the balance to other Western Hemisphere countries, Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

Jute production in Taiwan was 35,274 thousand pounds in 1956, compared with 34,761 thousand in 1955. Domestic consumption of jute is increasing in Taiwan. Japanese production varies little from year to year. It was 3,450 thousand pounds this year, or slightly more than in preceding years.

Brazilian production of jute is increasing rapidly. Current production is estimated at 70,547 thousand pounds, compared with 53,938 thousand in 1955 and only 113 thousand in 1935-39.

Jute 1/: World production, by countries, average 1935-39 and years 1953-56

(in thousands of pounds)

| Country | 5-year average 1935-39 | Year harvest | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| | | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 Preliminary |
| Pakistan <u>2</u> /..... | <u>3</u> / | 1,680,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,720,000 | 2,880,000 |
| India <u>2</u> /..... | <u>3</u> /3,360,856 | 1,200,000 | 1,300,000 | 1,636,000 | 1,640,000 |
| Taiwan (Formosa)..... | 26,443 | 12,743 | 28,660 | 34,761 | 35,274 |
| Japan..... | 2,933 | 3,340 | 2,612 | 2,348 | 3,450 |
| Brazil..... | 113 | 45,902 | 51,416 | 53,938 | 70,547 |
| Other countries <u>4</u> /.. | 31,391 | 28,715 | 19,312 | 29,953 | 21,729 |
| Total <u>4</u> /..... | 3,421,736 | 2,970,700 | 3,402,000 | 4,477,000 | 4,651,000 |

1/ Excludes mesta and other jute substitutes wherever possible to separate them.

2/ Official estimates 1935-39. Beginning 1952, F.A.S. estimates based on official and trade data.

3/ Pakistan included with India.

4/ Excludes Communist China, Manchuria and U.S.S.R.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Foreign Service officers, reliable trade sources, and estimates based on best available information.

U. S. HAS RECORD RICE EXPORTS IN AUGUST

Exports of United States rice in August were at a record high, totaling 2,786,000 bags (100 pounds) in terms of milled as compared with 423,000 bags in the corresponding month of the preceding year. The previous record was 2,594,000 bags in May 1952. Forty percent of total exports was shipped to Pakistan, and 32 percent to Indonesia. Substantial quantities also went to Turkey and Cuba.

RICE: United States exports, in terms of milled, to specified countries, August 1956, with comparisons 1/

| Country of destination | August-July | | | | August 2/ | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 1952-53 | 1953-54 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 2/ | 1955 | 1956 |
| | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Western Hemisphere: | <u>bags</u> | <u>bags</u> | <u>bags</u> | <u>bags</u> | <u>bags</u> | <u>bags</u> |
| Canada | 601 | 633 | 560 | 397 | 32 | 19 |
| British Honduras | 3 | 17 | 33 | 35 | 1 | 8 |
| British West Indies | 81 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 3/ | 33 |
| Cuba | 4,876 | 4,755 | 3,391 | 2,927 | 164 | 192 |
| El Salvador | 2/ | 3/ | 3/ | 44 | 0 | 0 |
| Haiti | 2 | 2 | 124 | 5 | 3/ | 3/ |
| Netherlands Antilles | 41 | 53 | 38 | 28 | 3 | 3 |
| Bolivia | 6 | 5 | 0 | 191 | 55 | 0 |
| Colombia | 3/ | 314 | 205 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Venezuela | 86 | 215 | 84 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| Other countries | 7 | 27 | 35 | 148 | 16 | 27 |
| Total | 5,703 | 6,027 | 4,475 | 3,828 | 271 | 282 |
| Europe: | | | | | | |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 52 | 206 | 460 | 298 | 42 | 143 |
| France | 2/ | 0 | 2/ | 78 | 0 | 2/ |
| Austria | 0 | 4 | 23 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Western Germany | 2/ | 29 | 38 | 53 | 9 | 2/ |
| Netherlands | 0 | 12 | 71 | 31 | 0 | 0 |
| Sweden | 2/ | 1 | 72 | 8 | 3/ | 2/ |
| Switzerland | 38 | 57 | 53 | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| Other countries | 10 | 31 | 97 | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 100 | 340 | 814 | 502 | 52 | 144 |
| Asia: | | | | | | |
| Ceylon | 647 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| India | 1 | 0 | 0 | 215 | 0 | 0 |
| Indochina | 0 | 0 | 0 | 220 | 67 | 0 |
| Indonesia | 1,100 | 0 | 0 | 516 | 0 | 898 |
| Korea, Republic of | 4/ 4,631 | 4/ 590 | 3/ | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Japan | 3,999 | 8,538 | 4,125 | 2,283 | 2 | 83 |
| Pakistan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,653 | 0 | 1,125 |
| Ryukyu Islands | 616 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Philippine Islands | 2/ | 3/ | 25 | 28 | 0 | 0 |
| Saudi Arabia | 138 | 130 | 136 | 75 | 3 | 4 |
| Turkey | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 218 |
| Other countries | 183 | 25 | 11 | 35 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 11,315 | 9,283 | 4,297 | 6,029 | 72 | 2,329 |
| Total Oceania | 19 | 17 | 19 | 39 | 1 | 4 |
| Liberia | 22 | 67 | 219 | 276 | 24 | 26 |
| French West Africa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 625 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Africa | 3/ | 6 | 10 | 21 | 2 | 0 |
| World total | 17,159 | 15,748 | 9,848 | 5/ 11,346 | 423 | 2,786 |

1/ Milled rice, including brown, broken, screenings and brewers' rice and rough rice converted to milled at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 500 bags. 4/ Adjusted to include all Government programs. 5/ Does not include 700,000 bags, which is the milled rice equivalent of ground rough rice sold by Commodity Credit Corporation for export as animal feed; nor an estimated 900,000 bags of supplementary exports by welfare organizations.

Source: Bureau of the Census, except as noted.

RICE: United States exports, by country of destination
and by classification, August 1956 1/

| Country of destination | Rough | | Milled | | Total (in terms of milled) |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| | Unmilled | In terms of milled 2/ | Not over 25% whole | Over 25% whole | |
| | | | | | |
| | Bags | Bags | Bags | Bags | Bags |
| Western Hemisphere: | | | | | |
| Canada | 1,186 | 771 | 1,300 | 17,284 | 19,355 |
| British Honduras | 0 | 0 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 8,000 |
| Canal Zone | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11,248 | 11,248 |
| Panama | 100 | 65 | 0 | 0 | 65 |
| Bermuda | 0 | 0 | 0 | 130 | 130 |
| Bahamas | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,740 | 7,740 |
| Jamaica | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 250 |
| Trinidad | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24,579 | 24,579 |
| Leeward Island | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| Haiti | 0 | 0 | 100 | 210 | 310 |
| Cuba | 3,275 | 2,129 | 0 | 190,313 | 192,442 |
| Netherlands Antilles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,822 | 2,822 |
| Surinam | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15,300 | 15,300 |
| Total | 4,561 | 2,965 | 5,413 | 273,876 | 282,254 |
| Europe: | | | | | |
| Sweden | 0 | 0 | 0 | 135 | 135 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 0 | 0 | 123,761 | 19,484 | 143,245 |
| France | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 250 |
| Western Germany | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 200 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 123,761 | 20,069 | 143,830 |
| Asia: | | | | | |
| Israel | 0 | 0 | 0 | 630 | 630 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,744 | 3,744 |
| Bahrein | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400 | 400 |
| Hong Kong | 0 | 0 | 150 | 0 | 150 |
| Pakistan | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,125,077 | 1,125,077 |
| Indonesia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 897,698 | 897,698 |
| Japan | 0 | 0 | 81,595 | 1,400 | 82,995 |
| Turkey | 0 | 0 | 0 | 218,049 | 218,049 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 81,745 | 2,246,998 | 2,328,743 |
| Trust territory of the Pacific : | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,460 | 4,460 |
| Liberia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25,965 | 25,965 |
| Other 3/ | 0 | 0 | 200 | 515 | 715 |
| Total world | 4,561 | 2,965 | 211,119 | 2,571,883 | 2,785,967 |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Rough rice converted at 65 percent. 3/ "Other" includes shipments valued at less than \$500 when the number of such shipments to a given country is few.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

U. S. EXPORTS GRASS AND LEGUME
SEEDS CONTINUED UPWARD TREND

August shipments of grass and legume seeds showed a sizeable increase over shipments for the same month in all previous years. The advance buying is probably due to the short Fall crops in Europe. The largest increase was in fescue seed of which more than 57 percent went to France.

U. S. Exports: Grass and Legume Seeds, August 1956
with comparisons

| Kind of Seed | August | | July 1, | July 1, |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1955, to August 31, 1955 | 1956, to August 31, 1956 |
| | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| | <u>pounds</u> | <u>pounds</u> | <u>pounds</u> | <u>pounds</u> |
| Alfalfa..... | 702 | 189 | 850 | 305 |
| Alsike..... | 44 | 0 | 54 | 43 |
| Other clovers..... | 237 | 633 | 264 | 861 |
| Timothy..... | 0 | 5 | 36 | 55 |
| Kentucky bluegrass..... | 0 | 40 | 10 | 66 |
| Orchard grass..... | 10 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Redtop..... | 0 | 8 | 0 | 32 |
| Fescue..... | 13 | 552 | 52 | 993 |
| Other grasses..... | 244 | 396 | 353 | 1,009 |
| Total..... | 1,250 | 1,823 | 1,634 | 3,364 |

U. S. WHEAT EXPORTS
CONTINUE UPWARD TREND

United States wheat exports during the first 4 months of the current 1956-57 season are estimated at approximately 153 million bushels compared with 81.5 million during the corresponding period a year ago. Official export figures are available only for July and August. The estimated 1956 September and October exports, 34 million and 35 million bushels respectively, are based largely on inspections for overseas exports and do not include rail and truck movements to Canada and Mexico.

Combined exports of wheat and flour during 1955-56 amounted to 341 million bushels grain equivalent. It is still too early to estimate total exports for 1956-57. Bureau of the Census figures for July and August plus September inspections for overseas shipments indicate that the principal destinations of the exports during the first 3 months of the season were France, Japan, West Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Belgium in the order indicated.

United States Exports of Wheat and Flour During Stated Periods

| Destination | July-August 1955 | | | July-August 1956 | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|--------|------------------|----------|--------|
| | Wheat | Flour 1/ | Total | Wheat | Flour 1/ | Total |
| | (Thousands of bushels, grain equivalent) | | | | | |
| <u>Western Hemisphere</u> | | | | | | |
| Central America..... | 227 | 841 | 1,068 | 246 | 632 | 878 |
| Cuba..... | 146 | 278 | 424 | 486 | 418 | 904 |
| British West Indies.... | - | 510 | 510 | - | 544 | 544 |
| Venezuela..... | 22 | 622 | 644 | 32 | 691 | 723 |
| Peru..... | 1,325 | 49 | 1,374 | 363 | 38 | 401 |
| Chile..... | 655 | 2 | 657 | 2,949 | 1 | 2,950 |
| Brazil..... | 2,274 | - | 2,274 | 3,906 | 2/ | 3,906 |
| Others..... | 1,352 | 694 | 2,046 | 1,803 | 711 | 2,514 |
| Total..... | 6,001 | 2,996 | 8,997 | 9,785 | 3,035 | 12,820 |
| <u>Europe</u> | | | | | | |
| Norway..... | 75 | 235 | 310 | 1,009 | 99 | 1,108 |
| United Kingdom..... | 2,871 | 407 | 3,278 | 5,032 | 369 | 5,401 |
| Netherlands..... | 4,310 | 431 | 4,741 | 6,909 | 327 | 7,236 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg.... | 652 | 4 | 656 | 4,443 | 3 | 4,446 |
| France..... | - | - | - | 13,141 | - | 13,141 |
| West Germany..... | 6,322 | 2/ | 6,322 | 7,634 | 2 | 7,636 |
| Austria..... | 30 | - | 30 | 1,111 | 3 | 1,114 |
| Switzerland..... | 4 | - | 4 | 1,242 | - | 1,242 |
| Finland..... | 139 | - | 139 | 1,542 | - | 1,542 |
| Portugal..... | 651 | 15 | 666 | 2,130 | 9 | 2,139 |
| Yugoslavia..... | 6,101 | 1 | 6,102 | 510 | 2 | 512 |
| Others..... | 392 | 143 | 535 | 1,435 | 8 | 1,443 |
| Total..... | 21,547 | 1,236 | 22,783 | 46,138 | 822 | 46,960 |
| <u>Asia</u> | | | | | | |
| Israel..... | 1,416 | 1 | 1,417 | 1,956 | 2 | 1,958 |
| India..... | 368 | 2/ | 368 | 2,164 | 1 | 2,165 |
| Pakistan..... | - | - | - | 2,954 | - | 2,954 |
| Philippines..... | - | 445 | 445 | - | 1,141 | 1,141 |
| Korea..... | 826 | - | 826 | 2,839 | 2 | 2,841 |
| Japan..... | 11,605 | 128 | 11,733 | 7,670 | 216 | 7,886 |
| Others..... | 1,272 | 1,578 | 2,850 | 1,199 | 1,664 | 2,863 |
| Total..... | 15,487 | 2,152 | 17,639 | 18,782 | 3,026 | 21,808 |
| <u>Others</u> | | | | | | |
| Africa..... | 1,568 | 1,020 | 2,588 | 1,760 | 952 | 2,712 |
| Oceania..... | - | 5 | 5 | - | 5 | 5 |
| Unspecified..... | - | 23 | 23 | - | 48 | 48 |
| Total..... | 1,568 | 1,048 | 2,616 | 1,760 | 1,005 | 2,765 |
| World total..... | 44,603 | 7,432 | 52,035 | 76,465 | 7,888 | 84,353 |
| 1/ Wholly of United States wheat. | | | | | | |
| 2/ Less than 500 bushels. | | | | | | |

ARGENTINA AUTHORIZES EXPORT OF SHEEP TO CHILE

The National Meat Board of Argentina has authorized the export of 100,000 head of old ewes and wethers to Chile this season. The sheep are moved into Chile as the pastures become green in the spring of the year. This movement is just getting under way.

Chile normally imports about 100,000 head per year except in 1954-55 when Argentina reduced the number of sheep moving to that country. As a result the Chilean Government banned exports of frozen mutton in 1955.

In 1956 1,000 metric tons of frozen mutton and variety meats were again authorized for export from slaughter plants in the Magallanes.

Chile is experiencing a period of extremely high meat prices and inadequate supplies for consumption.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL SHEARING DISPUTE REACHES CLIMAX EARLY IN OCTOBER

The Queensland shearing dispute, which initially began in January, reached a climax in early October when the Packers and Storemen's Union went on strike refusing to handle "black wool." The Queensland Premier, Mr. Gair, declared a State of Emergency, ordered a secret ballot and the Union voted by a large majority to return to work.

Mr. Gair referred the shearing dispute to the arbitration court. The court set shearers wages slightly below their demands, and both the shearers and graziers accepted the award with reservations. The shearers accepted conditionally upon the withdrawal of non-unionist labor throughout the wool industry. The graziers agreed to this providing there was no discrimination against employers who had previously utilized non-unionist labor.

ARGENTINE MEAT EXPORT QUOTA FOR EARLY 1957 ANNOUNCED

The National Meat Board in Argentina on October 5 authorized export of 51,000 metric tons of carcass and variety meats for shipment to the United Kingdom during the first 6 weeks of 1957.

The 51,000 ton quota will be made up of 35,000 tons of chilled beef, 3,000 tons of frozen beef, 10,000 tons of frozen lamb carcasses, and 3,000 tons of frozen beef variety meats.

SPAIN ACTS TO RELIEVE MEAT SHORTAGES

The Spanish government has taken a number of steps to relieve the present serious meat shortage in that country and has greatly increased meat imports to assure adequate supplies.

A recent decree forbids the slaughter of calves. The reduction in supplies of veal has accentuated the current shortage. However, in the long run this program will greatly increase beef production if enough feed is available to carry the calves to maturity.

The government is extending loans on liberal terms to farmers so they can carry their calves to the desirable increased slaughter weights. The farmers complain that the high feed costs make feeding of cattle to heavier weights an unprofitable operation. The high costs were the principal cause of the large slaughter of calves and the smaller overall meat output. Another reason for the current meat shortage is a reduction in the fish catch.

Spain plans to divert a large amount of low quality wheat to livestock feeding, if satisfactory arrangements can be made for imports of better quality wheat and other grains. Spain had a small production of feed grains last year and grain prices are now very high.

The United States exported 17 million pounds of frozen beef (valued at \$4.6 million) to Spain in January-July 1956, which was financed by the International Cooperation Administration. Shipments are still going forward under the I.C.A. authorizations, which total \$7,152 million dollars.

Purchase authorizations have been issued for the purchase of additional amounts of meat products in the United States for export to Spain under the provisions of Public Law 480. It is now contemplated that purchases of these meat products will be made during the latter part of 1956 for delivery to Spain mostly in 1957.

Purchase authorizations for Spain under Public Law 480 include \$2 million for frozen Utility beef (approximately 8.4 million lbs.), canned hams \$600,000 (900,000 lbs.) and salted pork \$400,000 (2 million lbs.). Spain is also buying lard in the United States under a \$1.4 million purchase authorization issued under P.L. 480. A previous purchase authorization permitted Spain to purchase \$2 million worth of tallow and greases in the United States for delivery through June 1956. However, this authorization was not all used.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES DECLINE

Wool sales were held in Sydney, Adelaide and Albury during the week ending September 28 and in Brisbane and Geelong the following week. Approximately 248,000 bales were sold at these sales. The Continent, Bradford, and Japan are still the principal buyers with some support from local mills.

Prices tended to level off the first week after 4 weeks of accelerated price increases, and declined slightly the second week. The price drop was more pronounced in Brisbane than Geelong, reflecting the uncertainty over wool shipments from Brisbane.

The higher level of wool prices in the first month of the 1956-57 season has increased the value of replacement ewes which were already at record levels. Good quality 2-year old Merino shorn bred ewes are quoted at \$16.35 per head.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.

(Current prices with comparisons)

| Type and Grade | Week Ended | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| | 9-28-56 | 10-5-56 | Year Ago 10-7-55 |
| | <u>U.S. Dollars per pound</u> | | |
| <u>Combing Wools</u> | | | |
| 70's Good..... | 1.61 | 1.58 | 1.27 |
| Average..... | 1.56 | 1.53 | 1.20 |
| 64's Good..... | 1.48 | 1.43 | 1.11 |
| Average..... | 1.44 | 1.39 | 1.07 |
| 60's Good..... | 1.33 | 1.29 | 1.01 |
| Average..... | 1.29 | 1.25 | .97 |
| 58's Good..... | 1.19 | 1.18 | .94 |
| Average..... | 1.14 | 1.14 | .90 |
| 56's Good..... | 1.05 | 1.02 | .89 |
| Average..... | 1.01 | .99 | .84 |
| 50's Good..... | .91 | .91 | .78 |
| Average..... | .89 | .88 | .77 |
| <u>Carding Wools</u> | | | |
| Merino..... | .88 | .85 | .67 |
| Comeback..... | .78 | .76 | .63 |
| Fine Crossbred..... | .70 | .67 | .62 |
| Medium Crossbred..... | .68 | .65 | .62 |

Source: Wool Statistical Service Australian Wool Bureau.

OUTLOOK GOOD FOR U. S.
DRY PEA EXPORTS

United States exports of dry peas totaled 52,000 bags in August 1956, the highest for that month since 1951. There is indication that exports may continue upward due to wet weather damage to dry peas in Western Europe this year. There is no official appraisal of the extent of damage but in the 1954-55 marketing year, when similar wet weather damage occurred in Europe, United States exports totaled 1.2 million bags. 835,000 bags of this amount went to Western Europe. Monthly shipments to all destinations in 1954-55 were as follows:

| <u>Month</u> | <u>1,000 Bags</u> | <u>Month</u> | <u>1,000 Bags</u> |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| August | 37 | February | 68 |
| September | 51 | March | 71 |
| October | 234 | April | 43 |
| November | 325 | May | 24 |
| December | 211 | June | 13 |
| January | 134 | July | 16 |

The large shipments in August this year went mostly to Latin America. Cuba, Venezuela, and Peru received 34,000 bags and Western Europe about 12,000.

Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, and Canada normally are the largest and most consistent importers of United States peas, except in seasons like 1954-55 and possibly 1956-57 when European demands for imports are high.

United States exports in the marketing year ending July 31, 1956 totaled only 408,000 bags compared with 1.2 million bags the previous year. This was the smallest amount in 15 years and about three-fourths of normal. The reduction resulted partially from smaller than normal United States production in 1955 and partially from larger production in Europe. In 1955-56 Europe not only supplied local needs, but exported substantial quantities to the United States and Latin America in competition with United States supplies.

The United States imported 129,000 bags in 1955-56 which was 4 to 5 times the usual quantity. 85,000 bags of these came from Europe.

AUSTRIA LIBERALIZES IMPORTS OF ORANGES FROM THE DOLLAR AREA

Word has been received from the Agricultural Attache in Vienna that the Austrian Government liberalized imports of oranges from the dollar area effective October 15, 1956.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO IMPORT CANNED FRUITS

The Federal Republic of Germany announced October 19 that importers could apply for licenses to import canned pears, apricots, mixed fruits, and other canned fruits (excluding Mirabelles). The applications, which must be accompanied by firm shipping orders valid until November 16, were to be accepted during the period October 26 to October 30. The total value of licenses, which were to be issued for fruit from any country of origin, was not announced.

SHORT YUGOSLAV PRUNE CROP ESTIMATED

The 1956 Yugoslav dried prune pack is estimated at 5,500 short tons, or approximately one-third of average production (16,200 tons) and only about one-fifth of last year's large pack of 25,800 tons. The 1956 crop of prunes, fresh basis, was one of the smallest crops in recent Yugoslav history. Most of the reduction resulted from the February freeze but some crop damage must have also resulted from infestations of gypsy moth and the endemic Sarka disease. Scattered hail storms also caused some damage.

It is estimated that only 1,600 short tons will be exported in 1956-57 in contrast with estimated 1955-56 exports of 27,500 tons. There was virtually no carryover of old-crop prunes on September 1, 1956, while a year earlier stocks amounted to approximately 7,200 tons.

The price of prunes in Yugoslavia this season is about double that of last season. As a result, the few prunes available for export will require a favorable exchange rate or subsidy in order to permit movement at competitive prices.

SOUTH AFRICAN CITRUS EXPORTS BELOW EARLIER ESTIMATES

The South African citrus exports are almost finished for the season and packing for export may end in mid-November. Earlier estimates of exports were about $7\frac{1}{2}$ million boxes, but it now appears that $6\frac{1}{2}$ million boxes will be exported this season. This is an increase of only 250,000 boxes over last year.

ARGENTINA EXPORTS ORANGES TO EUROPE

In August, Argentina shipped 28,000 boxes of oranges to the Netherlands. 35,000 boxes were shipped to Western Europe in October.

ITALIAN ORANGE PROSPECTS POOR

Trade sources expect the crop of seeded non-blood oranges in Italy to be about 30 percent smaller than last year. These early oranges constitute a relatively small portion of the Italian crop. The crop of Moro and Tarocco blood oranges is indicated to be smaller and sizes are small. Sweden is showing interest in these oranges. The crop of Sanguino and Sanguinello blood oranges is about 20 to 25 percent below last year. The Mandarin orange crop is about equal to last year and sizes are normal.

SPANISH ORANGE CROP LARGER THAN EARLIER EXPECTATIONS

The 1956-57 Spanish orange crop is officially estimated to be about 16 million boxes, compared to an earlier estimate of 13.3 million boxes. The 1955-56 crop was estimated at 49 million boxes prior to the February 1956 freeze. The crop is broken down as follows: 9.7 million boxes of Blood Ovals, Vernas, and Valencia Lates; 3.6 million boxes of non-blood types; 2 million boxes of Navels; and .7 million boxes of Mandarin-type oranges.

DEMAND FOR FRENCH PROCESSED CHERRIES STRONG

French traders report a good demand for brined cherries. It appears that the demand for French processed cherries is increasing in the United States, the United Kingdom, and France. Stocks of brined cherries in both Italy and France are low and processors expect the supply to last until March or April. Prices c.i.f. United States ports vary from 29 to 33 cents a pound depending on quality for French processed cherries.

NORTH AFRICAN CITRUS
CROP PROSPECTS GOOD

The North African (Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia) orange and tangerine crop is expected to be 15 million boxes, which is 15 percent above last season. The bulk of the crop is shipped to France, with only 8 percent earmarked for other countries. About 60 percent of the crop should be marketed by the end of January.

Lemon production is indicated at 450,000 boxes and grapefruit at 300,000 boxes. All of the lemons and grapefruit will be shipped to France.

TURKISH FILBERT CROP
ESTIMATE RAISED

The 1956 commercial production of filberts in Turkey is now estimated at 150,00 short tons, unshelled. This represents an all-time high for Turkey, exceeding the previous record crop in 1954 of 135,000 tons. The 1956 estimate is nearly 100,000 tons larger than the short 1955 crop of 57,000 tons, and is more than double the average (1949-53) of 65,700 tons.

ARGENTINE FLAXSEED, LINSEED OIL
SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

Argentina's 1956-57 flaxseed acreage is now reported officially at 2.7 million acres compared with only 1.7 million planted and 1.1 million harvested in 1955-56. Trade sources, however, are of the opinion that the area is closer to the earlier official forecast of almost 3 million acres. The crop reportedly looks excellent, though the picture may change considerably if rainy weather conditions persist. Exports of seed from the new crop are not considered likely.

Stocks of flaxseed on November 30, the end of the marketing year, are unofficially expected to be down to 1.8 million bushels. It is anticipated that stocks of linseed oil will be exhausted.

The tabulations on the next page show the estimated Argentine flaxseed and linseed oil supply and distribution for the current marketing year compared with 1954-55:

Table 1 - Argentina: Flaxseed supply and distribution,
1954-55 and 1955-56

(1,000 bushels)

| | 1954-55 | 1955-56 |
|----------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| <u>Supply:</u> | | |
| Opening stocks, Dec. 1 <u>1/</u> | 2,409 | 3,268 |
| Production <u>1/</u> | 18,991 | 9,094 |
| Imports..... | -- | -- |
| Total supply..... | 21,400 | 12,362 |
| <u>Distribution:</u> | | |
| Adjustment in production..... | 787 | -- |
| Exports Dec. 1 - Nov. 30..... | -- | -- |
| Crushings <u>2/</u> | 13,070 | 7,559 |
| Seed and waste..... | 4,275 | 2,968 |
| Ending stocks..... <u>1/</u> 3,268 | | <u>2/</u> 1,835 |
| Total distribution..... | 21,400 | 12,362 |

1/ Boletin Mensual de Estadistica.2/ Unofficial estimate; subject to revision.Table 2 - Argentina: Linseed oil supply and distribution
1955 and 1956

(1,000 short tons)

| | 1955 | 1956 |
|----------------------------------------|-------|------|
| <u>Supply:</u> | | |
| Opening stocks, Jan. 1 <u>1/</u> | 60.6 | -- |
| Production <u>1/</u> | 120.2 | 62.8 |
| Total supply..... | 180.8 | 62.8 |
| <u>Distribution:</u> | | |
| Exports <u>2/</u> | 173.1 | 55.1 |
| Domestic consumption <u>1/</u> | 7.7 | 7.7 |
| Ending stocks, Dec. 31 <u>1/</u> | -- | -- |
| Total distribution..... | 180.8 | 62.8 |

1/ Unofficial estimate; subject to revision. 2/ Frutos del Pais.

NEW ZEALAND MILK POWDERS BRING HIGH PRICES IN LONDON

Continued strength on the London wholesale market has pushed New Zealand milk powders to the highest price in 3 years. The ex-store price of New Zealand spray, nonfat dry milk on the London market has risen from 9.9 cents to 10.6 cents a pound while the roller type has been quoted at 10.0 cents, from 9.3 cents, per pound. While roller buttermilk powder remains unchanged at 8.8 cents a pound, the price of the spray buttermilk powder has increased 0.6 cents a pound to 10.0 cents.

Several reasons are attributed to the increase in price, a main factor being the increased suitability in the manufacture of various food products. Another has been the increasing popularity of the products.

The present prices are generally still somewhat below the peak prices received under the 1952-53 contractual agreement between the British Ministry of Food and the New Zealand Dairy Products Marketing Commission. There is an interesting difference in the pattern of prices between that period and the present. While spray, nonfat dry milk is 1.3 cents a pound under the 1952-53 contractual price, the roller type milk is less than 0.2 cents per pound under the contract price and while the roller type buttermilk powder is selling at 0.2 cents per pound under the agreed 1952-53 price, the spray type is 0.3 cents above the price 3 years ago.

SWITZERLAND IMPORTS MORE BUTTER

Imports of butter into Switzerland this year have been at a higher level than in 1955. In the first 8 months of 1956, Swiss imports at 8.4 million pounds were 33 percent above the corresponding period of 1955. Sweden was the main source with 3.7 million pounds, followed by New Zealand with 1.3 million pounds. Other important suppliers were Denmark, France and Norway.

ITALY'S BUTTER IMPORTS INCREASE

Italy's imports of butter during the first half of 1956 amounted to 8.8 million pounds, compared with 7.2 million pounds a year earlier. Principal suppliers this year were Denmark (2.8 million pounds), New Zealand (1.6 million pounds) and Australia (1.5 million pounds). Smaller quantities were supplied by Norway, Sweden and Austria.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRICES

Wholesale prices at specified markets with comparisons
(U. S. cents per pound)

| Country, market and description | Butter | | | | Cheese | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------|------------|---------|--------------|-------|------------|---------|
| | Date 1956 | Price | Quotations | | Date 1956 | Price | Quotations | |
| | | | Month | Year | | | Month | Year |
| | | | earlier | earlier | | | earlier | earlier |
| United Kingdom (London) | | | | | | | | |
| New Zealand Finest Grade-- | Sept.27 | 40.3 | 39.0 | 46.5 | | | | |
| New Zealand Finest White-- | | | | | Sept.27 | 36.9 | 35.8 | 29.4 |
| Australia (Sydney) | | | | | | | | |
| Choicest butter----- | Sept.28 | 46.2 | 46.2 | 45.3 | | | | |
| Choicest cheddar----- | | | | | Sept.28 | 28.1 | 28.1 | 27.5 |
| Irish Republic (Dublin) | | | | | | | | |
| Creamery butter (bulk)1/ | Sept.28 | 48.6 | 48.6 | 48.9 | | | | |
| Cheese----- | | | | | Sept.28 | 30.6 | 30.6 | 30.8 |
| Denmark (Copenhagen)----- | Sept.27 | 46.0 | 39.4 | 46.0 | | | | |
| France (Paris) | | | | | | | | |
| Charentes Creamery butter | Oct. 1 | | 79.0 | 93.5 | | | | |
| Germany (Kempten) | | | | | | | | |
| Markenbutter----- | Sept.26 | 66.5 | 66.0 | 66.3 | | | | |
| United States | | | | | | | | |
| 92-score creamery (N.Y.)-- | Sept.28 | 62.2 | 60.5 | 59.2 | | | | |
| Cheddar (Wisconsin)----- | | | | | Sept.28 | 36.0 | 36.0 | 34.5 |
| Netherlands (Leeuwarden) | | | | | | | | |
| Creamery butter (bulk)--- | Sept.29 | 49.3 | 49.3 | 50.8 | | | | |
| Full cream Gouda----- | | | | | Sept.21 | 25.7 | 25.6 | 27.6 |
| Edam 40 percent----- | | | | | Sept.21 | 23.8 | 23.7 | 25.7 |
| Belgium (Hasselt)----- | Sept.27 | 77.5 | 73.9 | 79.5 | | | | |
| Canada (Montreal) | | | | | | | | |
| 1st grade creamery----- | Sept 22 | 58.4 | 57.4 | 58.5 | | | | |
| Ontario white----- | | | | | Sept.22 | 34.3 | 33.8 | 29.3 |

1/ Excludes rebate of 1.1 cents per pound, payable on return of boxes.

Source: Intelligence Bulletin, The Commonwealth Economic Committee, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

TURKEY AUTHORIZES CREDITS FOR COTTON
PRICE SUPPORT FOR 1956-57 CROP

The Turkish Government has announced the total amount of credit to be advanced to selected sales cooperatives to put into effect the support prices for various agricultural products. The basic credit is advanced by the Agricultural Credit Bank of Turkey.

The price support announced for lint cotton, "Akala IA Aegean District", 1956-57 crop is 280 kurus per kilogram (45.36 U. S. cents a pound). If the domestic price falls below this level, the cotton farmers' cooperatives purchase the seed cotton and absorb any losses incurred. Domestic mills are charged accordingly, but cotton sold by the cooperatives for export is subsidized by the Government to varying extents under barter and bilateral trade agreements.

Recent spot quotations for Acala 1 at Izmir have ranged from 46.66 cents a pound on September 20, to 50.22 cents on October 18. Quotations for Acala 1 at Adana have ranged generally downward from 48.60 cents on September 6 to 43.74 cents on September 27, but recovered to 45.04 cents October 18.

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS
UP SHARPLY IN AUGUST

Exports of cotton from the United States in August 1956 amounted to 440,000 bales of 500 pounds gross (423,000 running bales), more than 3 times the July exports of 140,000 bales, and about 7 times the unusually low exports of 63,000 bales in August 1955. Comparable exports during the last 5 years have ranged from 110,000 bales in August 1952 to 374,000 in August 1950.

The sharp upturn in cotton exports marks the first month under the 1956-57 cotton export program of competitive-bid sales from stocks of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Total sales under this program through October 12, 1956, have amounted to 4,634,000 bales. An increasingly heavy volume of cotton exports is anticipated during the coming months, as the result of the large quantities of CCC cotton sold in June and July.

Exports to Europe in August 1956 amounted to 260,000 bales or about 60 percent of the total, the largest quantities being for the United Kingdom, Italy, Federal Republic of Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Belgium. Exports of 87,000 bales to Japan were the largest to any single country, accounting for 20 percent of the total. Sizeable quantities also were shown for Canada, India, and Korea. (See table on page 22).

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton by countries of destination, averages
1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954 and 1955,
August 1955 and 1956

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

| Country of destination | Year beginning August 1 | | | | August | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| | Average | | 1954 | 1955 | 1955 | 1956 |
| | 1935-39: | 1945-49: | | | | |
| | 1,000 bales | | | | | |
| Austria..... | 0 : <u>1</u> / | 36 : | 15 : | 18 : | 1 : | 3 |
| Belgium..... | 169 : | 131 : | 66 : | 30 : | 1 : | 18 |
| Czechoslovakia..... | 65 : | 57 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 |
| Denmark..... | 33 : | 14 : | 21 : | 3 : | 0 : | 1 |
| Finland..... | 35 : | 21 : | 13 : | 16 : | 0 : | 4 |
| France..... | 662 : | 575 : | 416 : | 178 : | 3 : | 39 |
| Germany, West..... | 511 : | 340 : | 350 : | 74 : | 8 : | 46 |
| Italy..... | 442 : | 489 : | 249 : | 105 : | 2 : | 47 |
| Netherlands..... | 107 : | 131 : | 95 : | 17 : | <u>2</u> / : | 22 |
| Norway..... | 17 : | 7 : | 12 : | <u>2</u> / : | 0 : | 1 |
| Poland and Danzig..... | 180 : | 69 : | 0 : | 1 : | 0 : | 0 |
| Portugal..... | 36 : | <u>2</u> / : | 11 : | 5 : | 0 : | 4 |
| Spain..... | 108 : | 69 : | 197 : | 143 : | 0 : | 0 |
| Sweden..... | 115 : | 12 : | 51 : | 10 : | 0 : | 2 |
| Switzerland..... | 11 : | 26 : | 37 : | 14 : | <u>2</u> / : | 6 |
| United Kingdom..... | 1,346 : | 488 : | 421 : | 153 : | 8 : | 64 |
| Yugoslavia..... | 17 : | 47 : | 103 : | 110 : | 1 : | 1 |
| Other Europe..... | 31 : <u>3</u> / | 33 : | 9 : | 4 : | 0 : | 2 |
| Total Europe..... | 3,885 : | 2,545 : | 2,066 : | 881 : | 24 : | 260 |
| Canada..... | 301 : | 275 : | 307 : | 75 : | 14 : | 28 |
| Cuba..... | 11 : | 16 : | 19 : | 11 : | <u>2</u> / : | 3 |
| China..... | 117 : | 401 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 |
| Taiwan (Formosa)..... | <u>4</u> / : | 1 : | 120 : | 124 : | 2 : | 0 |
| French Indochina..... | <u>22</u> : | 6 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 : | 0 |
| India..... | 52 : | 86 : | 61 : | 9 : | <u>2</u> / : | 21 |
| Indonesia..... | <u>2</u> / : | 5 : | 27 : | 15 : | 2 : | 3 |
| Japan..... | 1,142 : | 585 : | 678 : | 873 : | 16 : | 87 |
| Korea, Republic of..... | <u>4</u> / : <u>5</u> / | 48 : | 170 : | 135 : | 0 : | 17 |
| Chile..... | 9 : | 20 : | 10 : | 14 : | 0 : | 0 |
| Colombia..... | 20 : | 24 : | 2 : | 27 : | 0 : | 5 |
| Australia..... | 9 : | 7 : | 52 : | 28 : | 1 : | 6 |
| Other countries..... | 21 : | 46 : <u>6</u> / | 73 : <u>7</u> / | 128 : | 4 : | 10 |
| Total 500-lb. bales..... | 5,589 : | 4,065 : | 3,585 : | 2,320 : | 63 : | 440 |
| Total running bales..... | 5,300 : | 3,917 : | 3,447 : | 2,215 : | 60 : | 423 |

1/ 4-year average. 2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Greece 21.

4/ If any, included in other countries. 5/ 3-year average. 6/ Israel 20,
French Morocco 11. 7/ Hong Kong 45, Pakistan 19, Israel 15 and Bolivia 13.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

U. S. IMPORTS OF COTTON IN
AUGUST BELOW LAST YEAR

United States imports of cotton (for consumption) amounted to 4,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in August 1956, as compared with imports of 2,000 bales in July, and 7,000 bales in August 1955. The decline from last year occurred principally in imports from Egypt, partially offset by increased quantities from Peru.

UNITED STATES: Imports of cotton by countries of origin,
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954 and 1955,
August 1955 and 1956

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

| Country of origin | Year beginning August 1 | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | Average | | 1954 | 1955 | August | | |
| | 1935-39 | 1945-49 | | | 1955 | 1956 | |
| | <u>1,000 bales</u> | | | | | | |
| Brazil..... | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| China..... | <u>1</u> /31 | <u>2</u> /3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Egypt..... | 63 | 103 | <u>4</u> /73 | 60 | 5 | 2 | |
| India..... | 67 | 103 | 17 | 6 | <u>3</u> / | <u>3</u> / | |
| Mexico..... | 23 | 19 | 20 | 22 | 0 | 0 | |
| Pakistan..... | <u>5</u> /1 | <u>6</u> /12 | 11 | 22 | 1 | <u>3</u> /2 | |
| Peru..... | 1 | 23 | 22 | 23 | 1 | 2 | |
| Sudan..... | <u>7</u> /5 | <u>1</u> /6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | <u>3</u> / | <u>3</u> / |
| U.S.S.R..... | <u>2</u> /5 | <u>6</u> /1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| Others..... | 0 | 0 | 2 | <u>3</u> / | 0 | 0 | |
| Total 8/..... | <u>9</u> /185 | <u>9</u> /260 | 150 | 137 | 7 | 4 | |

^{1/} 4-year average. ^{2/} 2-year average. ^{3/} Less than 500 bales. ^{4/} Includes 147 bales transshipped via Italy. ^{5/} Included with India prior to partition in 1947. ^{6/} 3-year average. ^{7/} Included with Egypt prior to 1942. ^{8/} Includes small quantities which are reexported each year. ^{9/} Total does not add due to partial averages.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

U. S. IMPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS DECLINE

United States imports of cotton linters, mostly felting grades 1 to 4 inclusive, amounted to 16,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in August 1956, the same quantity imported in July, but slightly below imports of 17,000 bales in August 1955. Mexico supplied about 70 percent of the current month's imports, and 25 percent were from the U.S.S.R.

Quantities imported from the principal sources in August 1956 with comparable figures for 1955 in parentheses were: Mexico 11,000 bales (13,000); U.S.S.R. 4,000 (2,000) and El Salvador 300 (300).

U. S. EXPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS DROP SHARPLY IN AUGUST

United States exports of cotton linters, mostly chemical grades 5 to 7 inclusive, amounted to 13,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in August 1956, down 48 percent from exports of 25,000 bales in July, and 52 percent less than exports of 27,000 bales in August 1955.

Principal destinations of linters exports in August 1956, with comparable figures for 1955 in parentheses were: Western Germany 5,000 bales (9,000); the United Kingdom 3,000 (10,000); Japan 2,000 (4,000); and Canada 2,000 (2,000).

INDIA'S COTTON EXPORTS OF SOME VARIETIES TO BE FREELY LICENSED IN 1956-57

The Government of India announced September 8, 1956, its decision to license freely exports of the following cotton items to all permissible destinations during the 1956-57 season; Assams and Comillas, Zoda cotton, cotton pickings and sweepings, yellow pickings, and cotton linters. Exports of Cocanada cotton will not be permitted for the present.

JAPAN EXPANDS FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUDGET

Japan's foreign exchange budget for the period October 1, 1956 - March 31, 1957, has been expanded to an unprecedented \$2,341 million, including \$1,915 million for commodity imports. The primary purpose of this action is to procure larger quantities of raw materials needed to expand industrial production. The amount scheduled for the import of major agricultural products is about one-third of that for all commodity imports.

Cotton imports are planned at 1,290,000 bales between October 1 and March 31, bringing the total for Japanese fiscal year to 2,550,000 bales - an increase of 322,000 bales over last year. Soybean imports are budgeted at 419,000 metric tons, making a 12-month total of 749,000 tons. This is an increase of 38,000 tons over purchases during the previous 12 months. The budget provides for imports of 516,000 tons of barley, making a fiscal year total of 966,000 tons. This is a one-third increase from the previous year.

Wheat imports are budgeted at 1,043,000 tons, bringing the 12-month total to 2,117,000 tons - 216,000 tons less than last year. Rice imports are expected to be no greater than 460,000 metric tons. This would make a 12-month total of only 594,000 tons - less than half the amount imported the preceding year. October-March imports of tobacco are planned at 2,000 tons. This makes an annual total of only 4,250 tons, or less than 40 percent of the level for the previous year.

"MONILIA" POD ROT OF CACAO IN
PANAMA BELIEVED UNDER CONTROL

"Monilia" pod rot of cacao has recently been found on a small scale in the San Blas coastal and frontier areas in Panama bordering the Republic of Colombia. The disease may be totally confined to this locality because of natural barriers in the dense jungle and the widely dispersed cacao areas. The cacao propagation program in Panama may be considered relatively safe from introduction and contamination of new diseases, as the propagating materials are being obtained from centers in the country situated next to clonal trees, which are far removed from the infested areas.

U. S. EXPORTS OF SOYBEAN AND COTTONSEED OIL,
OILSEED CAKE AND MEAL AT RECORD LEVEL

Exports of soybean and cottonseed oil from the United States during the 12 months ending September 30, 1956 totaled nearly 1.2 billion pounds of oil, compared with the previous record of 729 million pounds in 1954-55. During the same period, a total of 702,000 short tons of cottonseed, soybean and linseed cake and meal was exported, as against 515,000 tons during the previous marketing year. Exports of soybeans during the period also established a new record at about 65.6 million bushels. (These data are based in part on preliminary Census Bureau returns for cottonseed oil, soybean oil and cakes and meal for September, 1956, adjusted by the Foreign Agricultural Service, and on an estimate of 1.6 million bushels of soybeans exported in September, based on inspection figures.)

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES AND MEAL: Preliminary estimates of United States exports in September 1956 and October-September 1955/56, and actual exports, September 1955 and October-September 1954/55

| Commodity | September | | October-September | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------|---------|
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1954-55 | 1955/56 |
| | (Preliminary) | | (Preliminary) | |
| | <u>Million pounds</u> | | | |
| Cottonseed oil, refined..... | 10.9 | 0.8 | 439.0 | 251.6 |
| Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed..... | 16.2 | 6.1 | 104.3 | 118.5 |
| Cottonseed oil, crude..... | 23.1 | 28.6 | 135.6 | 239.4 |
| Total cottonseed oil.... | 50.2 | 35.5 | 678.9 | 609.5 |
| Soybean oil, refined..... | 1.0 | 4.9 | 23.3 | 63.4 |
| Soybean oil, refined and further processed..... | 0.7 | 48.9 | 13.2 | 410.2 |
| Soybean oil, crude..... | 0.4 | 21.4 | 13.6 | 87.6 |
| Total soybean oil..... | 2.1 | 75.2 | 50.1 | 561.2 |
| | <u>Thousand short tons</u> | | | |
| Cottonseed cake and meal..... | 24.1 | 3.1 | 167.6 | 152.4 |
| Linseed cake and meal..... | 11.9 | 15.2 | 76.2 | 152.6 |
| Soybean cake and meal..... | 27.9 | 28.3 | 271.7 | 396.9 |
| Total cake and meal..... | 63.9 | 46.6 | 515.5 | 701.9 |

Soybean oil exports of 561 million pounds were more than 11 times the 1954-55 figure. Cottonseed oil exports of 610 million pounds, on the other hand, were down about 10 percent from the previous marketing year as government stocks were exhausted. Exports of the 2 oils plus the oil equivalent of soybeans exported, amounted to almost 1.9 billion pounds.

The largest percentage increase in cake and meal exports took place in linseed cake and meal; 1955-56 shipments were twice the previous year's. Cottonseed cake and meal were down by nearly the same percentage as cottonseed oil. Soybean cake and meal exports increased by 125,000 tons, over 45 percent above 1954-55. Exports of oilseed cakes and meals plus the meal equivalent of the record soybean exports totaled over 2.2 million tons in terms of meal, compared with 1.9 million in 1954-55.

RECORD 1956 WORLD CORN CROP IN PROSPECT

A record world corn production in 1956-57 is indicated on the basis of preliminary information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Though it is too early for reliable indications of production in some areas, especially in the Southern Hemisphere where planting is not completed in all countries, the present outlook is for a world production of about 6.5 billion bushels. A crop of that size would exceed the previous record of 1955 by 260 million bushels and would be 1,245 million bushels above the 1945-49 average.

The bulk of the increase over 1955 was in the United States and the Soviet Union. A near-record harvest in the United States brought this country's production 127 million bushels above the large 1955 outturn. Record carry-over stocks on October 1 bring total supplies of corn to the highest level of record. Corn production in the Soviet Union was at an unprecedented high level, according to available information and may be significantly above the previous record harvest in 1955.

Corn production in North America is estimated at 3,625 million bushels, 150 million bushels above the total for 1955. The current estimate has been exceeded only by the record outturn for this area in 1948 when the United States corn crop was at an all-time high. The United States harvest for 1956, now estimated at 3,369 million bushels, though 127 million bushels above the 1955 production is 236 million bushels below the 1948 record. For the current season, production in the United States represents about 52 percent of the estimated world total. Production is at an unprecedented high level in Mexico, the second producer of importance in this area. Canada's crop is very small, only 24 million bushels of corn for grain, according to a recent official estimate. This is about 23 percent below the record crop in Canada last year.

Europe's corn production is down significantly from the record outturn in that area last year. The bulk of the decline is in the Danube Basin countries, where reports indicate unfavorable weather has made significant reductions in yields, especially in Rumania. Reductions in Western Europe, mainly in Spain and Italy, were largely offset by a larger crop in France, due to a substantial increase in acreage in that country. Yields were sharply below France's high 1955 average.

CORN: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954-56 1/

| Continent and country | Acreage 2/ | | | Yield per acre 3/ | | | Production | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Average | | | Average | | | Average | | |
| | 1935-39 | 1945-49 | 1954 | 1935-39 | 1945-49 | 1954 | 1935-39 | 1945-49 | 1954 |
| | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 acres | 1,000 bushels | 1,000 bushels | 1,000 bushels |
| NORTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | |
| Canada | 172 | 244 | 418 | 40.8 | 45.2 | 53.4 | 7,010 | 11,038 | 22,339 |
| Guatemala | 1,000 | 1,208 | 1,285 | 15.7 | 14.9 | 11.3 | 15,700 | 17,991 | 14,490 |
| Honduras | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 5/ | 3,717 | 6,250 | 6,250 |
| Mexico | 7,501 | 8,894 | 10,870 | 9.0 | 10.7 | 14.5 | 67,523 | 95,389 | 157,470 |
| Nicaragua | 86 | 174 | 278 | 17.4 | 16.0 | 11.6 | 1,500 | 2,782 | 3,220 |
| United States | 92,699 | 85,694 | 80,186 | 25.0 | 35.7 | 38.1 | 2,315,554 | 3,056,687 | 3,057,891 |
| Cuba | 360 | 433 | 435 | 16.7 | 16.3 | 16.1 | 6,000 | 7,068 | 7,000 |
| Estimated total 5/ | 103,330 | 98,540 | 95,500 | 21.6 | 20.7 | 20.7 | 2,435,000 | 3,220,000 | 3,295,000 |
| EUROPE | | | | | | | | | |
| Albania | 235 | 242 | 148 | 21.6 | 20.7 | 39.7 | 5,067 | 5,020 | 3,880 |
| Austria | 163 | 152 | 148 | 39.2 | 25.5 | 43.1 | 6,384 | 3,870 | 5,990 |
| Bulgaria | 2,035 | - | - | 17.5 | 25.8 | - | 35,657 | - | - |
| Czechoslovakia | 285 | 353 | 1,014 | 5/ | 26.3 | 37.1 | 5/ | 9,098 | 37,600 |
| France | 839 | 649 | 1,014 | 26.3 | 16.2 | 38.4 | 22,096 | 10,491 | 42,950 |
| Germany | 85 | - | - | 47.1 | 14.7 | 15.5 | 4,000 | - | - |
| Greece | 650 | 582 | 647 | 15.5 | 14.7 | 15.5 | 10,078 | 8,564 | 10,040 |
| Hungary | 2,924 | - | - | 31.5 | 28.0 | 34.7 | 92,007 | - | - |
| Italy | 3,583 | 3,250 | 3,360 | 31.5 | 28.0 | 34.7 | 113,000 | 90,980 | 116,660 |
| Portugal | 1,235 | 1,236 | 1,201 | 12.1 | 10.0 | 12.7 | 15,000 | 12,368 | 15,200 |
| Romania | 9,870 | - | - | 17.4 | 22.6 | 29.5 | 172,000 | - | - |
| Spain | 1,094 | 850 | 1,000 | 5/ | 28.4 | 28.4 | 5/ | 31,076 | 29,500 |
| Yugoslavia | 6,615 | - | - | 26.7 | - | 25.2 | 176,600 | - | 153,500 |
| Estimated total 5/ | 27,660 | 27,490 | 26,970 | 26.7 | 22.6 | 25.2 | 695,000 | 555,000 | 610,000 |
| U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) | 10,000 | 7,550 | - | 17.0 | 15.0 | - | 170,000 | 113,000 | - |
| ASIA | | | | | | | | | |
| Turkey | 1,098 | 1,394 | 1,779 | 20.9 | 16.1 | 20.2 | 22,971 | 22,406 | 35,980 |
| China | 5/12,000 | 12,711 | - | 5/ | 21.6 | - | 5/262,000 | 274,013 | - |
| Manchuria | 3,720 | 6,660 | - | 23.3 | 19.5 | - | 86,585 | 130,000 | - |
| India 7/ | 5/ | 7,761 | 9,310 | 5/ | 12.2 | 12.6 | 5/ | 67,240 | 117,560 |
| Pakistan 7/ | 5/ | 986 | 1,068 | 5/ | 17.7 | 16.5 | 5/ | 14,360 | 17,600 |
| Indonesia | 1,053 | - | - | 21.2 | 16.9 | - | 22,365 | - | - |
| Japan | 5,800 | 5,500 | 6,220 | 15.2 | 15.6 | 17.2 | 88,000 | 86,000 | 107,000 |
| Korea | 128 | 133 | 168 | 24.2 | 21.7 | 20.2 | 3,094 | 2,881 | 3,400 |
| Philippine Republic | 321 | 1,820 | 3,440 | 5/ | 13.0 | - | 5/ | 4,177 | - |
| Estimated total 5/ | 36,090 | 41,080 | 44,910 | 8.9 | 10.1 | 9.4 | 636,000 | 685,000 | 710,000 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|------|------|------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| AFRICA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Belgian Congo | 179 | 670 | - | - | 5/ 19.6 | 17.9 | - | - | - | 3,500 | 12,000 | - | - | - |
| Kenya 8/ | 103 | 136 | 174 | - | 30.3 | 24.9 | 32.6 | 27.7 | - | 3,121 | 3,393 | 5,670 | 4,540 | - |
| Egypt | 1,599 | 1,699 | 1,977 | 1,903 | 1,900 | 39.7 | 34.4 | 35.5 | 35.5 | 63,908 | 56,696 | 69,000 | 67,470 | 67,500 |
| French Morocco | 1,112 | 1,260 | 1,228 | 1,210 | - | 7.6 | 8.0 | 9.0 | - | 8,505 | 10,074 | 10,080 | 10,890 | - |
| French West Africa | 1,732 | - | - | - | 5/ 12.4 | - | - | - | - | 21,473 | - | - | - | - |
| Madagascar | 260 | 214 | - | - | 15.3 | 11.6 | - | - | - | 3,969 | 2,472 | - | - | - |
| Angola | 1,435 | - | - | - | 9.0 | - | - | - | - | 12,859 | 12,900 | - | - | - |
| Southern Rhodesia 8/ | 268 | 293 | 400 | 390 | 22.1 | 18.1 | 24.8 | 27.7 | - | 5,923 | 5,298 | 9,900 | 10,800 | - |
| Union of South Africa | 6,989 | 7,111 | 9,520 | - | 11.5 | 12.2 | 14.0 | - | - | 80,132 | 86,699 | 133,520 | 129,230 | - |
| Estimated total 6/ | 13,210 | 19,290 | 23,060 | 22,990 | 22,921 | - | - | - | - | 255,000 | 285,000 | 345,000 | 340,000 | 335,000 |
| SOUTH AMERICA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Argentina | 10,775 | 5,327 | 4,603 | 5,590 | - | 28.0 | 29.1 | 21.8 | 27.3 | - | 155,012 | 100,230 | 152,350 | - |
| Brazil | 10,025 | 10,666 | 13,894 | - | - | 21.5 | 20.7 | 19.0 | - | 215,153 | 224,400 | 263,370 | 255,000 | - |
| Chile | 110 | 114 | 132 | 136 | - | 22.7 | 22.6 | 30.5 | 31.0 | - | 2,496 | 4,030 | 4,210 | - |
| Colombia | 1,360 | 1,654 | 2,000 | - | 5/ 15.1 | 15.4 | 16.1 | - | - | 19,511 | 25,429 | 32,280 | - | - |
| Peru | 650 | 780 | 572 | 573 | 580 | 15.4 | 17.2 | 20.9 | 20.6 | 17.9 | 10,000 | 13,423 | 11,810 | 10,390 |
| Uruguay | 425 | 395 | 682 | 659 | - | 12.2 | 10.1 | 10.6 | 11.5 | - | 5,188 | 3,997 | 7,240 | - |
| Estimated total 6/ | 24,930 | 20,810 | 23,270 | 24,350 | 23,810 | - | - | - | - | 575,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 495,000 | 500,000 |
| OCEANIA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | 314 | 222 | 176 | 177 | - | 22.4 | 26.6 | 29.0 | 25.4 | - | 7,030 | 5,899 | 5,100 | 4,500 |
| New Zealand | 7 | 7 | 3 | 3 | - | 45.4 | 55.6 | 66.7 | - | - | 318 | 389 | 200 | - |
| Estimated total 6/ | 325 | 235 | 185 | 185 | 200 | - | - | - | - | - | 7,500 | 6,500 | 5,500 | 5,000 |
| Estimated world total 6/ | 222,570 | 215,000 | 225,100 | 250,410 | 262,650 | - | - | - | - | - | 4,775,000 | 5,295,000 | 5,615,000 | 6,280,000 |

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which follow; thus the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1956 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which will begin early in 1957. 2/ Figures refer to harvested area as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for the Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts. 5/ Average of less than 5 years. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Figures for the period shown are not strictly comparable since figures for 1954-56 include estimates for non-reporting areas, which were not included with earlier figures shown, though allowances were included in estimated total for Asia. 8/ Production on European holdings only. Allowances for native cultivation, not shown, are included in estimated total for Africa.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Agricultural Attaches abroad, results of office research, or other information. Preliminary estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Corn acreage in the Soviet Union was increased sharply again this year, according to official reports. Increased interest in growing this crop is reflected freely in official pronouncements and press statements. Indicated levels place corn acreage this year at 4-5 times the prewar average. As yet, it is not possible to estimate with any certainty the production of the planted acreage that will be harvested as grain. It is recognized, however, that substantial parts of the total are utilized as silage and as green forage. As was pointed out in connection with last year's corn survey, the acreage expansion extended not only to the traditional corn-growing areas of the south, but also to a number of the more northern and eastern regions, where climatic conditions generally do not appear to be especially favorable to corn production. This would indicate large areas may be harvested in immature stages.

On the basis of incomplete reports Asia's corn production this year is slightly larger than 1955 and well above average. Expanded acreage in a number of countries, especially India, the Philippine Republic and Turkey accounts for most of the increase over earlier average periods. The tentative estimate of 725 million bushels for 1956 is 14 percent above the prewar average (1935-39). Present estimates for this late crop are subject to considerable revision since the crop is still being harvested in many countries and official estimates as to actual harvest results are not yet available.

Corn production in Africa is tentatively estimated at 335 million bushels, very little change from the above-average crop of 1955. Early season estimates for Africa, however, are based on less information than is the case for Northern Hemisphere areas, since about half of Africa's total is produced in Southern Hemisphere countries where planting is only now under way and where growing condition up through the first quarter of 1957 will determine actual outturns. The corn harvest becomes general in April in most of these countries.

Corn is harvested in South America at about the same time as in South African countries, and early-season forecasts included in the world total are subject to the same reservations as those noted above. Present indications point to a crop about at the 1955 level, which was somewhat below the 1935-39 level. A sharp reduction in Argentina's acreage accounts for the reduction. Corn acreage harvested in that country in recent years has been only about half the 1935-39 level. Reasons given for that decline include shortages of labor to produce corn, which requires more hand labor than competing crops.

Corn is of minor importance in Oceania, and recent crops have averaged only about 5 million bushels. This compares with 7.5 million bushels in 1935-39. The decline is due to reductions in Australia, the principal producer of the area. Acreage in that country has declined to about 60 percent of the 1935-39 average.

CORRECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 17
FILBERT CROP STORY

The average 1949-53 filbert production for Spain listed in the table on page 16, September 17, 1956, Foreign Crops and Markets, should have read 15,700 short tons instead of 115,700.

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